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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,403	08/18/2003	James C. Bedingfield	20009.0029USC1(98036C1)	9436
45695 7590 01/18/2008 WITHERS & KEYS FOR BELL SOUTH P. O. BOX 71355 MARIETTA, GA 30007-1355			EXAMINER ADDY, THJUAN KNOWLIN	
			ART UNIT 2614	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/18/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/642,403	BEDINGFIELD, JAMES C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thjuan K. Addy	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on September 26, 2007 has been entered. No claims have been amended. Claims 1-25 have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 26-50 are still pending in this application, with claims 26, 31, 35, 44, and 47 being independent.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 27 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claim 27 is dependent upon claim 1. Claim 1, however, was cancelled in a previous preliminary amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 26-28 and 31-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sayko (US 6,418,210).
4. In regards to claims 26, 35, 36, 46, and 47, Sayko discloses a method, system, routing module, and control module for a communications network to restore private information to a communication directed to an out-of-network entity (See Abstract), comprising: removing the private communication information (e.g., calling party's information, such as a calling party's name) from the communication (e.g., call) and storing the private communication information (for example, buffer 118 temporarily stores calling party's information, such as a calling party's name, for later retrieval) (See col. 3 lines 47-51 and col. 4 lines 28-48); forwarding the communication outside the network (See Fig. 1 and IP network 110) to the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112) (See col.); receiving, into the network, an outgoing communication (e.g., TCAP message) from the out-of-network entity; retrieving the private communication information and placing the private communication information into the outgoing communication; and forwarding the outgoing communication to a forwarding destination

and terminating the communication to the outgoing communication (See col. 4 lines 28-58 and col. 5-6 lines 38-21).

5. In regards to claims 27, 43, and 49, Sayko discloses the method, system, and control module, wherein removing and storing the private communication information (e.g., calling party's information, such as a calling party's name) comprises: receiving the communication at a routing module (See Fig. 1 and IP network 110) and activating a trigger provisioned on the routing module; sending a query to a database (See Fig. 1 and buffer 118) at a control module (See Fig. 1 and gateway interface 116) in communication with the routing module; recognizing, at the control module, that the communication is to the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112); and removing the private communication information using the control module, and storing the private communication information in a database in communication with the control module (See col. 4 lines 28-45 and col. 5 lines 38-56).

6. In regards to claims 28, 31, 44, and 50, Sayko discloses the method, routing module, and control module, wherein retrieving the private communication information (e.g., calling party's information, such as a calling party's name) and placing the private communication information into the outgoing communication (e.g., call) comprises: generating a transaction identification (e.g., call identifier), storing the transaction identification with the private communication information, and attaching the transaction identification to the communication, before forwarding the communication outside the network; activating a trigger provisioned on a routing module (See Fig. 1 and IP network 110); sending a query to a control module (See Fig. 1 and gateway interface 116) in

communication with the routing module; recognizing, at the control module, that the outgoing communication is from the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112); and locating the private communication information using the transaction identification, and inserting the private communication information in the outgoing communication (See col. 4 lines 28-58 and col. 5-6 lines 38-21).

7. In regards to claim 32, Sayko discloses the method, wherein the private communication information is a calling number and a privacy indicator of the incoming communication (See col. 4 lines 23-45).

8. In regards to claims 33 and 43, Sayko discloses the method and routing module, wherein the external entity determines a forwarding destination according to an enhanced service that the external entity provides and initiates the outgoing communication to the forwarding destination (See col. 4 lines 28-42 and col. 6 lines 8-21).

9. In regards to claim 34, Sayko discloses the method, further comprising: sending the outgoing communication to the forwarding destination; and terminating the incoming communication to the outgoing communication (See col. 6 lines 8-33).

10. In regards to claim 37, Sayko discloses the system, wherein the first query prompts the routing module to remove and store the private call information from the call, to generate a transaction identification, to store the transaction identification with the stored private call information, to attach the transaction identification to the call, and to send the call to the out-of-network entity (See col. 4 lines 28-45).

11. In regards to claim 38, Sayko discloses the system, wherein the outgoing trigger sends a second query to the routing module in response to receiving the call from the out-of-network entity (See col. 4 lines 46-53).

12. In regards to claim 39, Sayko discloses the system, wherein the second query prompts the routing module to located the private call information and insert the private call information into the call based on the transaction identification (e.g. call identifier) (See col. 5-6 lines 66-33).

13. In regards to claims 40 and 48, Sayko discloses the system and control module, wherein the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112) serves an enhanced service provider (See col. 1 lines 11-24).

14. In regards to claim 41, Sayko discloses the system, wherein the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112) receives an incoming call, places an outgoing call, and terminates the incoming call to the outgoing call to complete a call connection (See col. 4 lines 28-58 and col. 5-6 lines 66-33).

15. In regards to claim 42, Sayko discloses the system, wherein the out-of-network entity (See Fig. 1 and PSTN 112) communicates with the routing module (See Fig. 1 and IP network 110) through an integrated services digital network basic rate interface (e.g., communication link 114) (See col. 3 lines 23-30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

16. Claims 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sayko (US 6,418,210).

17. In regards to claim 29, Sayko discloses all of claim 29 limitations, except the method, wherein the outgoing communication is a call and the call includes a customized dialing plan code and the trigger is a customized dialing plan trigger.

Sayko, however, does disclose the method, wherein the outgoing communication is a call, and the call includes a call identifier, which also involves data transfer, in which the data transfer involves the translation from an IP protocol to a PSTN signaling protocol. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate these features within the method, as a way of removing and replacing private communication information, within a system, as a way of reducing the burden on the IP network and IP network terminal, since it would no longer be required to transmit redundant call information. Additionally, by not requiring the IP terminal to respond to a request for additional information, the gateway interface conserves the IP network and terminal resources, which are now available to perform other tasks. Furthermore, the gateway interface alleviates the need for requiring a SS7 protocol from

end to end of a PSTN network in order to exchange call information, such as the call name.

18. In regards to claim 30, Sayko discloses all of claim 30 limitations, except the method, wherein the out-of-network entity provides an enhanced service selected from the group consisting essentially of a call forwarding service, a call screening service, and an announcement service. Sayko, however, does disclose the forwarding of data/calling party's and/or information (See col. 1-2 lines 66-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious to include a call screening service and an announcement service.

Response to Arguments

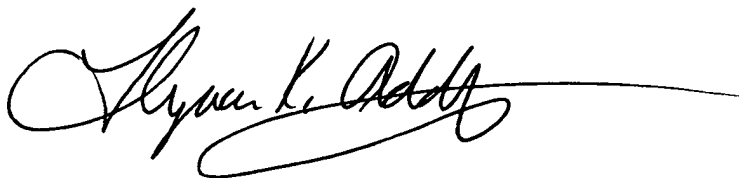
19. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 26-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan K. Addy whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

21. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

22. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thjuan K. Addy', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thjuan K. Addy
Patent Examiner
AU 2614